

**DETECTION OF PATIENT MORTALITY BY  
AN IMPLANTABLE MEDICAL DEVICE**

Abstract

5           An implantable cardiac rhythm management device is programmed and  
configured to detect a death event. When such an event is detected, the device ceases  
recording of physiological data, thus preserving in the device's memory the data  
collected at and shortly before the time of death. A death event may be detected by  
detecting of an absence of intrinsic electrical activity in the patient's heart and a lack  
10   of an evoked response to a predetermined number of pacing pulses.

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